

HONORING HEATHER MARI STANTON OF NAPA COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 18, 2006

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Heather Mari Stanton on the occasion of her retirement as project manager from the Napa County Flood Control and Water Management District.

Ms. Stanton's career in public service began in 1981 when she was hired as the executive assistant to the city council in San Jose. Her involvement and leadership in political life had begun earlier, however, when she founded her own political campaign consulting company in 1975 and worked as a lobbyist and advocate for the outdoor industry.

Ms. Stanton's work in the Napa Valley began in 1987 with her appointment as an assistant to the city manager in Napa, and she quickly moved to the position of director of community resources, a position she held for a decade. As director, she was instrumental in overseeing the development of numerous parks, sporting facilities, and community buildings, as well as an animal shelter.

Mr. Speaker, Ms. Stanton's work as project manager of the Napa County Flood Control and Water Conservation District has been vital to the success of the ongoing effort to ensure greater flood protection for the communities along the Napa River. In addition to ensuring the safety of our communities, she has helped to preserve the natural beauty of the Napa Valley through her involvement with the restoration of over 900 acres of wetlands.

Ms. Stanton is an active participant and leader in the Napa Valley community. She is

currently a board member of Leadership Napa Valley, where she has helped develop programs to nurture new generations of leaders. She is also a member of the Napa Valley Art Association and the Court Appointed Special Advocates for Children.

Ms. Stanton has also actively been involved in promoting the interests of the business community in the Napa Valley through her participation with the Napa Chamber of Commerce. She is a past president and board member of the Napa Valley Conference and Visitor's Bureau.

Ms. Stanton is the loving mother of three children, Shana, Greg, and Andrew Stanton. She lives with her best friend and partner, Benjamin Faulk.

Mr. Speaker, it is appropriate at this time that we recognize Heather Mari Stanton for her years of public service to the city and county of Napa, and for her hard work and leadership in the public life of the Napa Valley and extend our best wishes to her in retirement.

STEM CELL RESEARCH

HON. JOSEPH CROWLEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 18, 2006

Mr. CROWLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of Federally funded, ethical stem cell research. H.R. 810 passed by the House and passed the Senate on July 18, 2006 accomplishes this goal.

This important legislation would lift the ban on which stem cell lines can be researched using Federal dollars. It provides sound rules and regulations to govern the research of

stem cells, such as preventing human cloning for embryos or the deliberate destruction of embryos, while also providing doctors and scientists the ability to perform more research to find new cures for degenerative diseases such as Alzheimer's, spinal chord injuries, and diabetes.

Many of my colleagues on the Republican side of the aisle believe this legislation will open the door to rouge doctors to perform cloning procedures, or will allow for the use of Federal funds to actually destroy the embryos. Let me be crystal clear, this legislation will NOT allow Federal funds to be used in the destruction of embryos, nor will this legislation allow these funds to be used in cloning.

We, as a country, excel in so much; let us push forward on important research rather than regressing. With embryonic stem cell research we could potentially save the lives of an estimated 100 million Americans.

While this bill has overwhelming support from our country's leading scientists, biomedical researchers, patient advocacy groups, and health organizations, along with many religious leaders. President Bush has emphatically stated he will veto this legislation; the first veto thus far of his 6-year administration.

I cannot, on my conscience stand face to face with an individual suffering from a degenerative disease, and tell them that an embryo that will be discarded is more important than saving their lives.

President Bush, I ask you to reconsider your stance on H.R. 810, the stem cell research bill. Leave a lasting legacy on your Presidency, this country and the entire world. Sign this important legislation into law. I support this legislation and stand with my colleagues in the House and the Senate.